

Maurine Watkins letter

S0734

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

September 30, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical Note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents</u>	5
<u>Arrangement</u>	5
<u>Administrative Information</u>	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	6

Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Watkins, Maurine
Title	Maurine Watkins letter
Date	circa 1896-1969
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S734

Preferred Citation

Maurine Watkins letter, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

Maurine Dallas Watkins was born July 27, 1896 to George W. (a minister) and Georgie [Georgia] May [Mamye] Watkins (a teacher) in Kentucky; she was an only child and later took the middle name of Dallas because her father was born in Dallas County, Missouri. The family later moved to Indiana. She attended Transylvania College and Hamilton College, transferring credit to Butler College (Indianapolis, Indiana), from which she received an A. B. in 1919. She also attended Radcliffe College, from which she received a masters degree, became a reporter for the *Chicago Tribune* in 1924, and then attended Yale University as a graduate student in drama.

She wrote a play called *A/The brave little woman* (also *Play ball*), based on her reporting of the murder by two women of their lovers. It became a big hit in the 1926-1927 season; was the basis of a 1927 Cecil B. DeMille silent movie; the 1942 film "*Roxie Hart*"; and the musical and movie, "*Chicago*". She wrote 20 other plays, never produced, and scripted several successful movies, including "*Up the River*", "*Search for Beauty*", "*No Man of Her Own*", and "*Libeled lady*".

Maurine was a very wealthy woman and traveled to arrange for her bequests. Since she had developed a disfiguring facial cancer, she wore a black veil when she went out in public. She died of lung cancer on Aug. 10, 1969 in Duval (Jacksonville), Florida and is buried in Oak Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, Dallas County, Missouri, where her parents are also buried.

Bass, Carole. "Murder, she wrote — at Yale and on Broadway". 06520: The news blog of the Yale Alumni Magazine. Retrieved 2015/09/02. <http://archives.yalealumnimagazine.com/blog/?p=5342>

Kiernan, Louise. Murder she wrote. *Chicago Tribune*. Retrieved 2015/08/10. http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1997-07-16/features/9707160264_1_chicago-tribune-newsroom-maurine-watkins-feminine-perspective

Schiff, Judith. "How Yale begat Chicago". *Yale Alumni Magazine*. Retrieved 2015-08-10. <http://yalealumnimagazine.com/articles/3439/>

"Watkins, George Wilson". Find a Grave Memorial. Retrieved 2015/09/02. <http://www.findagrave.com>

"Watkins, Georgia Mamye". Find a Grave Memorial. Retrieved 2015/09/02. <http://www.findagrave.com>

"Watkins, Maurine D.", 1920 United States Federal Census. Retrieved 2015/08/10. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Watkins, Maurine Dallas". Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current. Retrieved 2015/08/10. <http://www.findagrave.com>

"Watkins, Maurine Dallas". Find a Grave Photos. Retrieved 2015/09/02. <http://www.findagrave.com>

"Watkins, Maurine Dallas". (2982) In *Indiana authors and their books: 1967-1980* (p. 411). Crawfordsville, IN: Wabash College. Print. ISLI 016.810 B219I SUPP. 1967-80

"Watkins, Maurine Dallas". Indiana Biography Index Before 1990. Retrieved 2015/09/02. https://www.statelib.lib.in.us/INBiopre1990/bio_cards_display.asp?ID=128719

"Watkins, Maurine Dallas". Maurine Dallas Watkins website. Retrieved 2015/09/02. <http://www.maurinewatkins.com/index1-herlife.htm>

"Who remembers Maurine Dallas Watkins?" Butler University Quarterly July 1984:11. Print. ISLI 378 B985QA 7/1984

Scope and Contents

This collection includes an autographed, signed letter from Maurine Watkins in Indianapolis, Indiana regarding recognition of her as an Indiana author.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a records transfer from the Indiana Division.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2015/09/02 by Edythe Huffman. EAD finding aid created 2015/09/02 by Edythe Huffman.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Indiana State Library.

Genre(s)

- Correspondence

Geographic Name(s)

- Indianapolis (Ind.)

Personal Name(s)

- McNitt, Esther U.

Subject(s)

- Authors--American--Indiana--19th century
- Authors--American--Indiana--20th century